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October 19, 1959

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: Honorable Gordon Gray
Special Assistant to
the President

I have your letter of October 9 and your memorandum of October 13 on the general subject of "The Great Thaw". I am in accord with the general views expressed in your letter.

To get a balanced picture, I believe that evidence on both sides of the case should be presented as it becomes available to us, although I am convinced that the aims of international communism remain as you state them.

We will continue to put items in the Daily Bulletin on this subject and will consider further the preparation of the special studies you suggest.

SIGNED

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

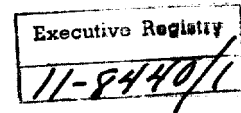
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CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



October 13, 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Honorable Allen W. Dulles

With further reference to my memorandum to you of October 9, subject: "The Great Thaw," the first item on page 1 of the Central Intelligence Bulletin of 10 October 1959 is perhaps the kind of thing which might be watched for.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "G. Gray".

Gordon Gray
Special Assistant to the President

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

10 October 1959

DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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Executive Registry

11-8440

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 9, 1959

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: Honorable Allen W. Dulles
 Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: The Great Thaw

At the outset, let me indicate to you that this memorandum is not intended to be critical of the President's decision to invite Mr. Khrushchev to this country nor of his plans to visit Russia. Indeed, on balance, I think the development has been a good thing.

However, I'm afraid that my own mistrust of the Soviet hierarchy persists, and I see real hazards in not keeping a cool and critical eye on developments which could give a clue to Soviet attitudes and intentions.

There are, of course, some indications that Khrushchev is seeking to "melt the ice". I have in mind the speech upon his return to Moscow in which he referred to the desire of the President and the people of America for peace; his public utterances in Communist China; and the failure to resume jamming of the Voice of America as far as the Soviet Union is concerned. At the same time there may be clear indications that the aggressive and expansionist activities of international communism continue unabated and it seems to me it is this sort of thing we also have to watch.

It occurs to me that perhaps a great service might be performed for United States policy makers if there could be a periodic summary, perhaps weekly, of events, activities and circumstances around the world which reflect any continued efforts of the Soviet Union of a "cold war" character.

The Soviets complain of various things that we're doing which they say are inconsistent with the present spirit and attitude of the leaders

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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

of the two countries. Perhaps we would want to be in a position to make similar complaints. However, it seems to me that the real utility of such a survey as I am suggesting lies in its possible assistance to the President and his principal advisors in avoiding going too far along any new road without watching road signs which should be there.

Perhaps you would wish to give consideration to some such undertaking.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Gray", with a stylized, cursive script.

Gordon Gray
Special Assistant to the President